

United States Postal Service

§ 966.3

initial or tentative decision becomes the final agency decision upon the issuance of such denial. If an appeal is not filed and the Judicial Officer, or by delegation the Associate Judicial Officer does not review the initial or tentative decision on his or her own initiative, a final order will be issued. The Judicial Officer's decision on appeal or his or her final order is the final agency decision with no further agency review or appeal rights.

[76 FR 15219, Mar. 21, 2011]

§ 965.13 Compromise and informal disposition.

Nothing in these rules precludes the compromise, settlement, and informal disposition of proceedings initiated under these rules at any time prior to the issuance of the final agency decision.

§ 965.14 Public information.

The Librarian of the Postal Service maintains for public inspection in the Library copies of all initial, tentative, and final agency decisions and orders. Copies of decisions also are available on the Judicial Officer's section of the official Web site of the U.S. Postal Service. The Recorder maintains the complete official record of every proceeding.

[76 FR 15219, Mar. 21, 2011]

PART 966—RULES OF PRACTICE IN PROCEEDINGS RELATIVE TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSETS INITIATED AGAINST FORMER EMPLOYEES OF THE POSTAL SERVICE

Sec.

- 966.1 Authority for rules.
- 966.2 Scope of rules.
- 966.3 Definitions.
- 966.4 Petition for a hearing and supplement to petition.
- 966.5 Effect of petition filing.
- 966.6 Filing, docketing and serving documents; computation of time; representation of parties.
- 966.7 Answer to petition.
- 966.8 Authority and responsibilities of Hearing Official or Judicial Officer.
- 966.9 Opportunity for oral hearing.
- 966.10 Initial decision.
- 966.11 Appeal.
- 966.12 Waiver of rights.
- 966.13 Ex parte communications.

AUTHORITY: 31 U.S.C. 3716; 39 U.S.C. 204, 401, 2601.

SOURCE: 62 FR 63279, Nov. 28, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 966.1 Authority for rules.

These rules of practice are issued by the Judicial Officer pursuant to authority delegated by the Postmaster General.

§ 966.2 Scope of rules.

(a) The rules in this part apply to any petition filed by a former postal employee:

(1) To challenge the Postal Service's determination that he or she is liable to the Postal Service for a debt incurred in connection with his or her Postal Service employment, that the Postal Service intends to collect by administrative offset pursuant to the authority of 31 U.S.C. 3716 and in accordance with the regulations contained in the Employee and Labor Relations Manual, sections 470 and 480; and/or

(2) To challenge the administrative offset schedule proposed by the Postal Service for collecting any such debt.

(b) The regulations in this part are consistent with the provisions of the Federal Claims Collection Standards pertaining to administrative offset.

[77 FR 65104, Oct. 25, 2012]

§ 966.3 Definitions.

(a) *Accounting Service Center* refers to the United States Postal Service Eagan Accounting Service Center or its successor installation.

(b) *Administrative offset* refers to the withholding of money payable by the Postal Service or the United States to, or held by the Postal Service or the United States for, a former employee in order to satisfy a debt determined to be owed by the former employee to the Postal Service.

(c) *Debt* refers to any amount determined by the Postal Service to be owed to the Postal Service by a former employee.

(d) *Federal Claims Collection Standards* or *FCCS* refers to regulations promulgated by the Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury and codified at 31 CFR parts 900 through 904.